

Editor of the Christian Advocate & Journal (Dr. Bands) but who has lately re-invented, made the prayer. Mr. Grosvenor then made a short summing speech, then Amos Dreser told the Nashville story. He is a small, delicate pretty looking, young man, rather fair, with the cunningest little black eyes, you ever saw. He told his story quite well. In some places very well. It did not differ very much from the published account, but it was of course, more diffuse & contained a more minute account of his feelings. He certainly bore a very decided testimony to the Lynch committee. Great sobbing was heard all over the room. After he sat down, brother May jumped up and poured forth a flood of feeling on the subject appealing to patriotism talking about Free Discussion & Northern Rights till his audience were so worked up as to give him three cheers. Stanton then spoke very well, commanding the State, & saying "Boston cannot give us a church or a hall when the City votes, they give us a stable, but when the State votes we have the best places at her command. The meeting broke up just before dark & we all went to Channing St to tea. Garrison, May, Grosvenor, Robert Hall and one or two others were present, but we could stay a very little while for fear we should lose our seats at the State House. Jan 31. Thursday, no, Tuesday morning. To resume. The moment we had swallowed our tea, Ann Chapman & I, on Garrison's arm, proceeded to the State House. It was not half full when we got there but in a short time it filled to suffocation. A Mr. Goodman of somewhere in the country, made a rather prosaic prayer & then George Foster spoke. He did very well but not as well as if he had delivered the same speech that he did in Longfellow long since. While he was speaking there was great clamor at the door outside and laughing. It seemed some like a mob & the Sergeant at Arms had to go & interfere. Then Ellis Gray Loring spoke & made a long speech. It was done in Ellis' little happy quiet soft way. He told of the glories of the cause in England, & in short, made the glory of the U. S. cause to pass before them. He referred politely to Dr. Channing & received an immense, no I mean a moderate clap. Shortly after he allowed to Garrison, first describing Clarkson & then joining Garrison & then to; this brought down a tremendous clapping, interspersed with a few hisses. On the whole Brother Loring acquitted himself well. There was some noise, but not a great deal while he was speaking. Francis Jackson was in the Chair. By the way, Francis was chosen President of the Mass Society, Mr. Southwick having declined. The other officers were much the same as last year. After Ellis sat down, Stanton rose to speak of Slavery in the District of Columbia. He made a very nice speech for that occasion, not that it was exactly one of my speeches but it had a great effect on the audience. It was one of those Free & discussion flourishes, in which his soul so much delights. It seemed to get the audience pretty well under, but the noise somewhat continuing, Mrs. S. sat down. Francis Jackson then took that opportunity to give a notice of our meeting the next afternoon, saying that Mr. Dreser who was lynched at Nashville would be present. Then arose a mighty howling. The crowd that thronged the door every gallery was called out. Dreser now dresses himself. Come on, come on, we want to hear him now "precisely as they call at the Theatre for a favorite actor" I suspect it was much the same class of people. Dreser according to his story. He was called up roarously

and people seemed to have great delight in his story. After the meeting was adjourned Stanton rose & said something more, at which all the audience cried out "More, more, tisn't late" Accordingly he held forth some time longer. It seems to be the opinion of all that the noise & difficulty proceeded more from the fact that there was about as many people at the door striving to get in as were ~~in~~ the ^{out} side, & that they made the noise from no riotous disposition. The next morning we went again to the stable where Mr Root spoke and Mr Phelimon R. Russell. Russell spoke finely as did Mr Root. Amasa Walker then spoke very briefly. He appears to have crept out. Mr Fitch told his usual stories about "runaway" then Robert Williams told a story in a very fine way. He is a black man now living in Boston, who was stolen from Africa & brought to this country &c. The most amusing part of the matter is that a part of the place was laid in Weymouth, he being the very man whom Capt. Bligh carried attempted to carry back into Slavery. The vessel that he was on board was the Cleopatra, the very vessel that was too ~~rest~~ for George ~~but~~ May like to have gone off while the story was telling, & Mr Perkins looked pretty blue. After he had finished, they then talked over a building for Free discussion, also for the Free Church. Deacon Greenleaf C. Walker B. & Mary sundry others spoke. The Free Church one turned out of Congress Hall by Cullen for allowing the Mass Soc to go in. Then notice was given of the Ladies Meeting to be held at the Curtis' Gallery. Mrs Child & Miss Baker of Dorchester went to Morris's to dine. There was a great number of ladies assembled at the Hall & a very suitable number of gentlemen. Just as I went into the Hall Ann Cholman brought me your letters. My heart ached for you. I cannot say any thing else than that you write so glorious, true, and all I can give, is sincere sympathy. Mr Charles Portland a coloured man, prayed. Poor May read a hymn which was pure, and deeper than spoke; he is no great orator apart from his story; but Stanton, who followed did himself credit. He did as of Boston certainly got ~~up~~, and the "gentle men of property" received no mercy. He was witty, and he was eloquent. In short, he did well. After it was over & just before the meeting broke up, we (some of the friends) went round to get names to the petition and subscribers. While going round, I felt some disposition to cough, but thought it must be to you poathy, as the whole audience seemed to be coughing. But I soon discovered the case. There were some villains at the door who threw a handful or two of Cayenne pepper into the store which set the whole audience Stanton & all to coughing. We probably got \$20 worth of subscribers and how much more I don't know. By the way our lot have pledged \$100 to New York which we hope to pay at once. In the evening Maria had the brethren. All the people of note were there. I had a good deal of talk with Deepen and liked him very well, but instead of wondering that he was syncretic, I wonder that he ever lived to get out of Berks Co. where he was born. He is poor at all silly, but his simplicity & innocence are extreme. His religious fervour is very opponent; as for instance he asked Maria when he left "to remember him at the throne of grace." He told us all the particulars that were not published & seemed to like to talk. Dr Farnsworth was there, and I wish I was so worn out, (which was very true, for I had great crosses during this series of meetings) and I had so much work & the meetings were not yet over, that I could not go to Boston with him till Sat. He did not say decided by that he could not. Robert Hale, Mrs Child, Stanton & all the rest of the chief brethren were there. For treat we had oysters, and sundry other things. No sweets.

The next morning a lousy little meeting was held at 40. When I say little I mean positively, for the Hall was full, but they were all brethren. Before got there a eulogium had been passed on Henry Benson which had drawn the whole audience in tears. The Liberator was made the order of the day & certainly Garrison's apotheosis was made then. Many was eloquent in the extreme. Mr Chapman spoke very well. Stanton spoke & Amasa loomed in the middle of it, & came & told me that he had made an appointment in Concord & must go that morning & wanted me to go home & get ready. As I had promised that I would go, I in great perplexity went home & there found that Cassine had invited people to our house that evening that my things were not ready & she advised me not to go. So I went

to Mac Gregor had best to take the cars. The train called here yesterday night before 10 o'clock. Mr Stark was out of luck the train had

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MS.A.9.12.9.9

walk to the Hall but he was gone. Cassine however was at home explored things when he came. After the meetings were all over thought over the matter & finally came to the conclusion that I'd wait till after your vocation before I came up to Boston & I wrote on Sat evening to Dr F to pay so. If I went now I should have to go alone by the way of New Haven which would be bad or I must go in a covered sleigh which would make me very sick. Then too I should be worried fear I should get snowed up so that I could not get down before your vocation. Therefore I design to go away at the very time that you do, that is suppose you go back. To return to the meetings Mr Garrison & the Liberator received the most overwhelming applause. I came home all worn out but nevertheless prepared for the company that we were to receive. Mrs Child took tea with us & spent the night. In the evening, we had Mr & Mrs Fisher, Mr B. Hale, Mr Chapman, Sylvia, Mrs Robbin (Jones) & a Mr St Clair minister of the Unitarian Church in West Boylston & Mrs Garrison & Norton could not come